ROBERTA COLDREN DYER
1411 Gregory Avenue
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AFTER DEATH WHAT? THIS PAPER TELLS YOU

SPIRITUALISM'S PICTORIAL JOURNAL

The PSYCHIC OBSERVER

TRUTH

TRUTH FOR AUTHORITY NOT AUTHORITY FOR TRUTH

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Noted Stead Center Medium Passes Away In Florida

Mrs. N. S. Themelis Was Internationally Known as Cecil M. Cook

"God's World" Written Through Her Able Collaboration

By
Psychic Observer Reporter

On January 2nd, *Rev. Mrs. N. S. Themelis,* (formerly Cecil M. Cook) trustee and pastor of the *W. T. Stead Memorial Center,* 41 *W. 88th St., N. Y. C.,* passed on at her winter residence in West Palm Beach, Florida.

She was not only a great pioneer but also an outstanding instrument for the proof of survival after death. A noble worker is lost to the world through her passing.

This outstanding pioneer and messenger of communication has helped to convince many "*doubting Thomases*" through her exceptionally high caliber mediumship. She possessed a highly organized circle of collaborators under the sponsorship and direction of *W. T. Stead.*

Consolation and comfort was brought to thousands through her mediumship, at a time when the cause of Spiritualism was wavering under persecution and ridicule.

Purpose of Stead s Visit

Mrs. N. S. Themelis was a credit to her calling and her unusual gift as a voice medium brought dignity and respect to the ranks of Spiritualism even in the eyes of those who were inclined to scoff.

Through her mediumship, knowledge and information was given to the uninformed public who reached out for light and explanation. Data received in the seance room has been compiled—some of which stand as *Textbooks* for students and teachers, such as "*God's World*" (*) and *The Key to Communication.*" (**)

One of the principal purposes of Mr. Stead's visit to America, (i. e.) before he went down on the Titanic, was to induce Mrs. Themelis, known at the time as the "Child Medium," to return to London with him and assist in the conduct of his "JULIAS'S BUREAU." Since his passing, Mr. Stead has been constantly with Mrs. Themelis, directing the organization which bears his name.

Tested in a Cage

Mrs. N. S. Themelis was a born medium. Even in early childhood she heard voices, but it was not until she was fifteen that she realized the true nature of her gift.

In 1913, she incorporated the *William T. Stead Memorial Center* of Illinois (*Church of Soul Communion*) of which she was trustee and pastor, and since then has successively established centers in Massachusetts, New York, California and Florida.

During Mrs. Themelis' earlier years as a public Medium, she submitted to endless tests imposed upon her by "*professional*" *investigators.* These investigators insisted on what they termed "*test conditions,*" designed and endorsed by these "*scientists*" in an effort to name their own law for the spirit world.

A cage was constructed and she was placed in it and bound. And yet, in spite of these handicaps, voices came just as before — some as clear as any mortal voice speaking in an ordinary tone.

Mrs. N. S. THEMELIS

Finally she came to realize that her gift of mediumship was not intended simply to satisfy a band of skeptics who could add nothing to the cause of Spiritual Science or to the truth of immortality, but could be better used to put bereaved persons into communication with those whom they had loved in this world. In later years, this important work occupied practically all of her time.

Through seances and messages to people in all parts of the world. Mrs. Themelis became widely known as an outstanding and highly developed medium.

Many noted men and women in the world sat in her seance room. These persons were of nearly every nationality, often conversing with their spirit friends in their native tongues.

Real Test of Mediumship

Mrs. Themelis' principal spirit collaborators were *Snowdrop, Pat. Bright Eyes* and *Pink Rose,* all are known intimately to many thousands throughout the world.

Serving as she has these many years at the listening posts along life's great frontier, is there any wonder that she heard the dear ones from the other side as though they were mortals like ourselves?

Around and about Mrs. Themelis there gradually gathered a circle of friends whose interest went beyond the mere fact of communication, and who were ready to receive the teachings of the more highly evolved spirits. Therein lies the real test of Mediumship. Communication is one thing but the teachings are something else. Many who sit in seances are not familiar with the great teachers. This privilege was reserved for small classes who preserved careful records of the teachings.

World Service Work

Through her relentless devotion to the spirit world, it was possible for Mrs. Themelis' collaborators to make use of her forces that those with long experience on the farther side of the earth's shadows could come unhampered and bring their lessons for the good of humanity.

Mrs. Themelis is the author of "*The Voice Triumphant*" (***) (The Revelations of a Medium). This book is based upon her nearly thirty years of observation and experience, embracing hundreds of seances and private sittings. It is not the author's interpretation of what she believed she saw and heard, but was written by and through her.

Center To Continue

She has not simply given a volume of teachings, but also one of spiritual philosophy, interwoven in such a way that it intensifies the value of the experience stories themselves. The book is a simple statement of untiring, ceaseless efforts—witnessing the reunion of loved ones—hearing in ever new and inspiring words the expression of the glorious truth that "*there is no death and there are no dead.*"

The monument which she founded, the *W. T. Stead Memorial Center* will carry on as she wished. The work will continue under the leadership of her husband, *Rev. N. S. Themelis,* president of the Center.

In due time, a voice medium measuring up to the dignity and prestige established by the Stead Center, will take over the department of Spirit Communication.

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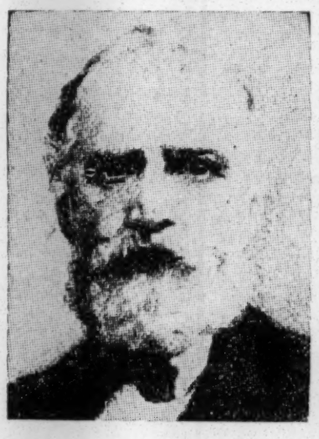
(*) $2.00; (**) $1.25; (***) $2.00; For sale by Dale News, Inc., Lily Dale, N. Y.

TO SEEK MEDIUM TO CONTINUE HIS WORK



Psychic Observer
WILLIAM T. STEAD

Since his passing, he has collaborated with many mediums in England, as well as in the U. S. A. His American center will continue when an instrument is found through whom he can make direct contact.

The Will Of The Spirit

MEN have argued for ages about the possibility of receiving communications from the dead. In public, some scoff at the idea, but *alone* they will wonder. Here is a case in which a North Carolina court and jury accepted, by inference, the appearance of the spirit of *James L. Chaffin.*

Chaffin died in 1921, and his only known will left a small fortune to his youngest son, *Marshall.* Nothing was left to his wife and three eldest sons, and the will was never disputed.

Four years later the eldest son, *James,* awakened to see his father standing at his bedside, wearing a familiar old dark overcoat.

"*You will find my new will in my overcoat pocket,*" the specter said, and disappeared.

The coat was found in the home of a brother who had moved to another county. In the lining was a concealed pocket in which was discovered the following message:

"*Read the 27th Chapter of Genesis, in my old Bible.*"

The mother found the Bible. It fell open at the *Book of Genesis.* Here two pages were fastened together, and between them was the new will, written and signed on January 16, 1919.

According to the document the father's property was equally divided between the four sons, with instructions to care for their mother.

The new will was submitted to the court and the passage from *Genesis* was read. It was the story of *Jacob* who had inherited more than his brother, *Esau.*

The handwriting on the will was checked and found to be that of the father. The will was successfully probated, the estate divided.

(This case is a matter of public record and has been discussed in American newspapers.)

"Pageant" Magazine

A "SPIRIT RABBIT" TALKS TO HARVEY

Have you seen the current stage production "HARVEY"? It is playing at The Forty-Eighth Street Theatre in New York City . . . starring Frank Fay. The play is written by Mary Chase, whose husband is the editor of the Rocky Mountain News, Denver, Colorado.

Harvey's spirit collaborator, a "Pooka" or White Rabbit, can (not) be seen in the empty chair (see picture above) BUT Harvey not only claims he sees him but carries on sustained conversations with this etheric dignitary, whose messages are true in every instance.

Had the communicating spirit been depicted as a human being instead of a rabbit, it is doubtful whether the play would have been accepted by the public.

The important point, however, is the fact that the messages were purported to have been received from a "dead" intelligence and it is quite possible that Miss Chase knew that the public wolld accept "A Rabbit" but turn down for instance—a Spirit Brother or a Spirit Father.

At present "HARVEY" rates third among New York's stage successes.

"I Speak With the Dead"

Furthermore

I Believe That Through Spiritualism Mourners Can Be Comforted

Sincere Students Should Form a Home Circle

By
FLIGHT-LIEUT. MILLAR, R.A.F.

I want to speak especially to the enquirer into Spiritualism. These are the important people today. I am convinced that Spiritualism has proved beyond a shadow of doubt *that* there is another state of existence; *that* when we depart from this world we pass to that other life; and *that* it is possible from that life to communicate with those you have left.

Spiritualism is not a creed; it is a universal fact. I will go so far as to say that it is universal religion. I am not enamored of the name Spiritualism because I feel that it is such a large subject that the term is restrictive and denominational.

You Are A Spirit

Spiritualism is the basis of all great religions. Spiritualists accept personal responsibility. There is no vicarious atonement. Every man pays his own debts. *That is just.* You are a Spirit! That body cannot feel pain. I spoke recently to a pilot whose plane had crashed. He told me "I was out of the body. I saw myself seated on the ground. I saw the plane burning, but I felt no pain." Only after medical attention had revived him did he feel pain.

Some years ago I knew a Dutchman. I met him on a Dutch ship and became friendly with him. His name was Hans. About eighteen months ago I was at a seance when a direct voice called out "*It is Hans.*" "*Which Hans?*" I asked. "*Hans, the steward. You remember the happy times we had, coming to England; the ship was bombed, and sank.*"

Trance Mediumship

How well I remembered it. It was the first intimation I had of the death of Hans.

Later, when sitting with a trance medium in another town, the medium was coming out of trance

(Continued Page 4, Col. 1)

The Case of Henri Roger

EVIDENTIAL PROOF FROM A SERIES OF TABLE SITTINGS

A "Dead" Frenchman Keeps His Promise

By YVONNE C. STEVENSON
634 Michigan St.
Victoria, B. C., Canada

Psychic Observer
HENRI ROGER

I propose to give results of a series of table sittings held by my family. These sittings brought us the conviction that we were actually in touch with our deceased friends and loved ones.

My daughter was engaged to be married to a young Frenchman, *Henri Roger* by name. One evening, while she was out at a party, my husband remarked, "*Shall we have a table-sitting?*" and I agreed. Placing our hands on the table, we waited patiently, and at length the table commenced to move indicating that our friends on the Other Side were ready to communicate with us.

My husband asked a question concerning *Henri* and there came the startling announcement: "*He will die.*"

Science Does Not Explain

We looked at each other aghast. Henry was a fine handsome young man, twenty-five years of age, full of life and happiness. There was nothing to indicate an early passing might be expected.

At this time, *Henri* was visiting our home in Scotland and he knew we were much interested in the subject of survival. One day I said to him, "*Henri, I feel you are surprised at my interest in survival.*"

"*I know nothing about it,*" he replied.

"*As a Bachelor of Science,*" I continued, "*you must know that science does not explain everything.*"

"*Yes,*" he conceded, "*I admit that.*"

"*Well,* I continued, "*in the ordinary course of nature I should pass over first and I would like to make a pact with you. I will give you my promise that, if possible, I will demonstrate that we do not die and will, if permitted, communicate with you. Will you promise me, Henri, that if you should pass first, you will do the same for me?*"

He was silent for a while and then raising his eyes frankly to mine, he replied very gravely, "*Very well, I will.*"

Henri Roger and I never referred to the subject again.

The end of his visit arrived, the hotel bus conveyed him to the village station, and we all accompanied him down the station platform to see him off.

A Psychic Experience

Suddenly I heard myself saying, subconsciously, "*You will never cross our threshold again!*"

Startled, I asked myself mentally, "*where did that thought come from?*"

We waived to him and returned to the library and that night I lay thinking of the strange experience.

Suddenly, a vision of *Henri* appeared before me. He was lying in front of me and looked extremely pale. His large blue eyes stared upwards. Stretching out my hand to him I cried out, "*Oh, Henri!*" but the vision had vanished.

Next morning, I mentioned my strange psychic experience to my other daughter and we decided it would be better not to mention it. A day or two passed and then a letter arrived from Henri's landlady in London.

She stated that *Henri* had been taken suddenly ill and that she had been advised to communicate with his parents in France; that he had been put on the Channel steamer and that his parents would be there at the dock to take care of him.

Evidential Information

Some time elapsed and then one day we received a letter from his parents conveying the news that *Henri* had died. He had passed away on the operating table.

We returned to Canada and my daughter who had grieved very much at the loss of *Henri* became ill. Our doctor advised removal of her tonsils and, just before she went into hospital we decided to hold a table-sitting.

Henri Roger came through and his beautiful message to her was "*Linette, I shall be there.*"

"*Where, Henri?*" I questioned.

His brief reply was, "*the knife,*" which conveyed to us that he intended to be present at the operation of his loved one. ("*Linette*" was an endearing name he called her by when they were alone together.)

Perhaps one of the most amazing examples of evidential information given to us by *Henri*—and he has given many—was experienced during a sitting held in *Vancouver* at the apartment of my daughter while I was visiting her.

Again *Henri* came through and then the name "*Hugo*" was announced.

"*But we do not know anyone of that name,*" I insisted impatiently.

Immediately there came this message, given entirely in the French tongue: "*A friend of Henri.*"

"*You are very welcome, Hugo,*" I said.

Keeps His Promise

Continuing in French — doubtless in compliment to me, a Frenchwoman—Hugo said: "*Your husband is here.* He says, "*Sweet Marie,*" Madame.

The table ceased to move and with the realization of what this message conveyed to me, I exclaimed aloud, "*Oh, God!*"

My daughter looked at me in surprise. "*What does that mean, Mother?*" she asked. Collecting my incredible thoughts, I replied, "*why, it was our honeymoon song, Eve. We were so very happy and often sang this particular song which was a popular one in those days. The words were so pretty and our hearts were young and gay. That is why, when our first little baby girl was born, we decided to call her "Marie."*

"*Oh,*" she replied, "*I have often wondered, Mother, why you called her Marie, because there isn't anyone of that name in the family. Now I understand it, Mother.*" (This little child had died two hours after birth.)

Henri has kept his promise to me many times. Not only at table-sittings, but through various mediums. In the year 1930, at *Clacton-on-Sea,* my husband and I attended a meeting which had been advertised. Towards the end, a medium rose and stated, "*There is a young Frenchman here. He says his name is Henry.*"

Trance Control

I rose and said, "*Yes, I think it is for me.*" The medium replied, "*He says he is so pleased that you came tonight.*"

While staying in Glasgow we also attended a daylight seance at the home of the medium, *Spencer.* He was seated at a table and addressed me, saying: "*Madam, there is a young man here . . . I do not say he has not stayed in this country but all his interests were over the water.* (Note: his parents lived in France).

Mr. Spencer was then apparently controlled by *Henri.* Rising, he threw his head back in Henri's characteristic manner and walked up and down the room.

"*He says he has a message for Madamoiselle,*" stated the medium. The message is that "*he will love her through all eternity and will help her all he can.*"

This is the case of *Henri Roger* who faithfully kept the promise given me before his passing: "*Very well, I will,*" he had said quietly, and he had kept his word.

RELATES PSYCHIC EXPERIENCES

Psychic Observer
YVONNE C. STEVENSON

PASS YOUR PSYCHIC OBSERVER ALONG

Because of the Government's wartime restrictions on paper consumption, fewer copies of The Psychic Observer will be printed than last year. With the demand for Observer growing, this means that some readers will be unable to buy their favorite "Spiritualism's Pictorial Journal." To help meet this shortage, we urge you to pass your copy along to some friend after you have finished it.

Challenging Forces

THEY ARE EVER PRESENT

By EDWARD A. LOHMAN

It is most astounding, the progress we are making — and yet, many of us fail to see the deeper significance of it all.

We listen to our radio, hear the *Quiz Kids,* the amateurs on *Maj. Bowes'* program, the many and various artists of song and music and little think we shall have to build new schools, new platforms, new laboratories and new conservatories,.

And why? Simply to house and teach these newday prodigies, these new souls of a new day and age.

New Challenging Forces

Each age has its problems, its tragedies, its challenges. To each age is given an opportunity to work out their problems.

To each nation is given a leader or group of leaders to direct and instruct in the ways best to carry out the ideas of the prevailing forces constantly challenging mankind.

Since the dawn of time, these invisible life forces have been working within the human soul; ever calling upon the then incarnate spirits to work out better ways; to create larger channels by which and through which these very challenging forces might more intelligently, more definitely express and manifest.

Cosmic Evolution

These very forces have from the beginning found, and to a large extent chosen, their outlets to exhibit power and intelligence.

Known as the "Gods" of *Science, Philosophy* and *Invention,* these mighty forces are spiritual in nature and most wise insofar as they know and can manipulate Cosmic Law. Furthermore, they are free to use these laws to fashion the greatest good for the greatest number.

Thus, throughout all time, these forces have ever presented a new challenge—new only to the particular time but also to the particular people of that time.

But each new challenge is intended to lift mankind one step higher upon the eternal path of *Cosmic Life* and *Evolution.*

Ever as of old, so today the challenge goes on. The Voice again calls to us—try me and prove me and see what I shall do for you.

John the Baptist

When *Moses* and *Aaron* were challenged by the king to prove their spiritual forces, these men were given the power and the intelligence to outwit and outdo the less wise, as well as the less powerful magicians of the king.

When *Daniel* was called to challenge the sorcerers and the wise ones of the king's court, he, by the power and spirit of his God, was given the wisdom to interpret the king's dream.

When *Jesus,* the master medium, teacher and prophet, was born unto his day and time, the world again was challenged as never before.

Five thousand years have passed. Events have changed. The problems of the past have now become the new problems of the present. These present day problems seem vaster, more serious, more complex than were the personal problems of pettier, punier kings.

The challenging forces were again at work. They sent *John the Baptist* into the wilderness to prepare the way. It was the most challenging place in the world to send a man to think and live. Jesus came upon the scene. No man of his or any other time would ever have been more deeply conscious of the challenge that was his.

Where and Why?

Without pomp or ceremony, he accepted the challenge. He accepted it not upon the power and the authority of kings or political parties, nor that of any scribe or pharisee.

Aye, these were the very forces which opposed him. But his vision was clear, his heart resolved. With that high vision and resolve he, in turn challenged a few poor, humble, ragged fishermen to leave their boats, cast their nets aside and follow him.

Follow Him, where and why? To meet the challenging spiritual forces of that day.

These men had nothing but ridicule, mockery, persecution and possible death to encourage them. Their leader promised them nothing. Yet, even these simple, humble, unkept, untutored fishermen felt the pressing challenge and cried "*We go, where thou leadest.*" *And follow, they did.* You well know the story of the happenings of that day.

Thus, in the day and the hour

(Continued Page 3, Col. 3)

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Crisis in Psychic Research?

Many Refuse To Accept Actual Spirit Communication

Biased Minds Cry "Anything But Spirits"

By
HORACE LEAF, F.R.G.S.

SPIRITUALISTS have every reason to be dissatisfied with science, in which it has placed so much confidence. If the recent summary of the *Question-Master* of the *Brains Trust* on the subject of scientific evidence for survival is to be taken as a gauge, little or nothing of value has been gained by the world on this subject through science, after seventy-four years of investigation in a dozen different countries.

Dr. Alfred Russell Wallace and *Sir William Crookes* must indeed feel sad at the result of the researches into mediumship that they initiated and sponsored. Both became enthusiastic Spiritualists, but both were rare types of men.

They were too large minded and too sincere in their search after Truth to care for public opinion; even the adverse criticism of their fellow scientists left them unruffled, because they could speak from personal evperience and had sound as well as fearless judgment.

The "Brain's Trust"

When they realized that the Spiritualistic hypothesis was the only one that covered the salient facts, they embraced it. Such a course was natural to their honest minds.

Had there been a few more like them, Spiritualism would have been the most flourishing of religious bodies today; instead of which we find the pace far too slow at a time when speed would seem to be essential.

It is tragic that popular personalities like those who speak for the *Brains Trust* should be unable to say whether *Spiritualism* is true or false. There must, of course, be a cause for this, and it is not very difficult to discover: scientists prefer any explanation, no matter how far-fetched and illogical, to that of spirits.

Why they object to *spirits* must be sought for in the history of the struggle between science in its beginnings, and religion in its power and intolerance. Science grew up with hatred in its heart against religion, because religion was so positive on matters of faith and ignorant on matters of fact.

Science vs. Religion

Anything that hates and fears the light of Truth is harmful, no matter under what name it goes. Unfortunately, mankind easily develop prejudices, and one of them is to hate and despise those who injure them, and religion tried to kill science at its birth.

Fortunately, science grew too strong for religion, and, turning the tables against its enemy, grew to treat religion with contumely; hence it seems to detest anything that savours of religion, and spirits are always interpreted by science as a fundamental part of religion; and so Spiritualism stands condemned.

* * *

No experienced Spiritualist denies the religious significance of the survival of bodily death, although very often this point of view is an outgrowth of a much more prosaic approach. If man survives death it shold be regarded as a simple natural fact, irrespective of any other significance.

What Atheists Find

I once met a man who pushed this attitude of mind to the extreme. Accepting survival as a proven fact, he nevertheless remained an atheist on the grounds that the nature of existence in this world convinced him that there could be no God, and the fact that life continued elsewhere did not necessarily alter this conclusion.

Horace LEAF

He felt that it might result in showing that the imperfections and injustices of this life were continued elsewhere.

He could find plenty of evidence to support his opinion in the testimonies of those who return from the Beyond.

His point of view is, however, as far as I know, unique; practically all Spiritualists take the stand that life is progressive, and that death marks an advance in human happiness. But this particular athiest was honest enough not to deny what he found in survival, unpleasant as it must have been to him.

Proverbial Methods

If science had taken even his cold and skeptical standpoint, it would have been much better for mankind; but science was too biased—it would not have spirits under any circumstances.

Such a position could be justified only by the proverbial method of straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel: and science, in connection with Spiritualism has swallowed some enormous camels. From the first it became clear that mediumistic phenomena were undeniable, and called for an explanation.

The obvious one for the most important of those phenomena was spirit-return; but to science the obvious was unpleasant and something else had to be substituted. The substitutes even now constitute a body of theory that must make the reasonable, experienced person smile.

The best that can be said for many of them is that they were dressed up in scientific jargon, an old trick that has deceived millions.

* * *

Hallucination and fraud quickly had their day. *Lord Kelvin's* statement that *"one half is deception; the other half malobservation"* made a kind of Siamese twins, which soon succumbed in the presence of the honest enquirer. This criticism was far too plain for the man-in-the-street.

Supernormal Phenomena

If his sympathies were to be won by the opponents of Spiritualism he must be spoken to in more complicated and impressive terms; so along came *Dr. Maxwell* with his theory of *"an explosive discharge of neuric force."*

In this way, he pointed out, we could account for "spirit" raps, they being akin to the noise of a spark of electricity. Here were a bevy of intriguing words: *"explotive," "discharge," "neuric," "electric," "force."* What more could science want?

Alas for the theory! Supernormal phenomena do not consist merely of explosive sounds; there are strange mutterings, visions, voices, moments of spiritual illumination, and well-attested facts connected with the identity of deceased personalities, and often such facts as the departed alone could make known.

No amount of exploding neural force could account for these.

Gasparin then came along with a reversion to a much older idea, although hitherto applied to normal physiology: *"Some fluid,"* said this wiseacre, *"emanates from the body of the medium and produces the effects seen."*

The trouble here was that the *"fluid"* sometimes took on human form, solid, active and reasoning; to be born in a moment and in a flash to die. What kind of *"fluid"* was this?

Unique Personality

No Spiritualist need deny the existence of this hypothetical *"fluid,"* whatever that may mean; what they wanted *Gasparin* to explain was, how this mysterious substance did such wonderful and soul inspiring things; how produce such miracles?

After that there was a good deal of talk by scientists about psychic force, psychode, transposition of forces, exteriorization of motivity, psychopathology of the nerve centers, ectenic force, and what not; anything except spirits.

Eusapia Palladino

Science, once embarked upon the ship of Spiritualism, became terribly sea-sick, and mistook its malady for an explanation of the mysteries of mediumship. But the height of ridiculousness was to be reached in the theory of "an unique personality."

This high-sounding term included a multitude of assumptions, so stupid that it must remain a marvel how scientists could have been so misled by it.

* * *

In short, the theory was this: owing to the intense desire of the experimenters sitting with a medium—in this case the famous physical medium, *Eusapia Palladino*—their subconsciousnesses combined to make an additional personality, which produced the phenomena!

Needless to say, in those hectic days of investigation, when science had one main objective—to destroy Spiritualism—it would have been practically impossible to have found a scientific seance in which all the investigators were of one mind.

If by any chance they were, it must have been in opposition to the spirit hypothesis; why, then, did the invisible operators producing Eusapia's phenomena, insist whenever asked, that they were none other than the spirits of departed human beings?

Truth of "Spirit-return"

They would even give names and other facts in support of their claim, and they angrily denied that they were anything or anybody else.

The humor about this situation is that on this theory of unique personality we have the subconscious minds of the scientists opposing their conscious aspirations, for almost all of them were anxious to destroy Spiritualism.

Nor does it speak well for the *"depth"* psychology of these investigators, for the unique personality that they gave birth to was, on their own showing, an unmitigated liar! We hear little of this theory now, but in all probability it will be revived.

After the dicta of the *Brains Trust* on evidence for survival we may expect anything; since present evidence cannot convince them of the truth of spirit-return, we may well conclude that nothing will.

Spiritualists Firm

Even though one rose from the dead, they have denied him, and in face of this there is little hope of making science a serious protagonist.

It is disappointing, but, after all, science is disappointing; it is too clever and not good enough. Its aim is to wring facts and forces from nature, but it is not interested in the virtues.

Let *Socrates* keep an eye on *them;* science prefers *"doodlebugs,"* they are so ingenious they can kill women and children without those who despatch them even hearing the cries or seeing the blood of their victims.

Yes, science is adroit, skilful, ingenious, deft and dexterous, and can evolve tricky theories, but, principle for principle, Spiritualism concedes it no point where real and permanent values are concerned.

"Two Worlds"

Lohman Says . . .

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

in which we live, are the challenging forces calling to us.

Through the avenue of science, research and religion are we answering the call? Our problems are as far removed from ancient times as is the East removed from the West. The pity is that so many of our people still cling to the obsolete workings and experiences of by gone days.

We are facing far greater tasks; the task of building greater minds, greater concepts of life, spirit and living.

We are challenged even as is the artist, who is challenged to paint ever greater and grander master works. And so it is with the Singer, the Poet, the Musician, the Writer, the Preacher, the Prophet, the Fisherman and the Housewife.

A New Challenge

Truly, this is a new day with challenging Forces ever with us to put these spiritual forces to a test; to try them and prove them and see what they shall do for us.

When *John* had heard in the prison concerning the works of *Jesus*, he sent two of his disciples to ask Jesus whether he, (Jesus) was the one that should come or should the people look for another to lead them.

Whereupon the Master said, *"Go tell John that the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised and to the poor is the good news being preached."*

In brief, Jesus might have said, *"Tell John that I have accepted the challenge of our day, to do that which the spiritual Forces require to be done in this age."*

And it is in this spirit and with this vision before me that the church, in a sane and sensible way, accept this new challenge.

Let us not grow weary in our efforts. It can be done. It will be done!

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Aviator Speaks To The DEAD

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

when he said "I hear a voice say '*Hans.*' He is showing me a tulip bulb. Now I see a windmill, and a man with baggy trousers with a patch on them." It was the Dutchman.

A rarer type of phenomena is full form *materialization*, in which your discarnate friends can appear as living, breathing people. They can talk and shake hands with you. I have talked with them for a quarter of an hour at a time. I have seen many of my own friends and relations manifesting in this fashion.

Not long ago I saw and spoke to a lad I had known, who had been blown to bits by a bomb.

Startling Evidence

On two occasions I saw a man I know who used to race in the T.T. races in the Isle of Man. He appeared to me with the front of his face smashed, for recognition purposes. An elderly lady invited me to put my finger in her mouth and to note that certain teeth were missing.

At another sitting an old gentleman I had known came back. He was wearing a beard. When I knew him late in life he had no beard. I wrote to his wife, who replied, "*I am thrilled about what you say. He always had a beard before I married him.*"

By such means spirits prove their identity, just as Jesus manifested in full form and showed His wounds.

* * *

Through Spiritualism, mourners can be comforted. A young airman, engaged to a young girl about 22, who passed over suddenly from pneumonia, appealed to me. As he was going down South on leave, I arranged a sitting with a medium I knew.

Servant Or Master?

His fiancee came through immediately, gave her name and discussed many intimate things. He asked her where she had left her diary. She answered "*In the left-hand top drawer of the dressing table.*" It was found there. That cut out questions of telepathy and sub-conscious action.

The investigation of psychic phenomena is not everybody's meat. If you are strongly prejudiced, leave it alone, but if you are a sane, balanced, reasonable person, it is a subject you should investigate.

Remember, it can either be your servant or your master. It should be used for the benefit of humanity and not for your own material aggrandisement.

Form your own home circle.

You will find that communication is possible. You will also find that your friends are brought to you at first as a kind of bait, but gradually they will make way for other spirits, from whom you may receive instruction, which, after all, is the real reason for communication.

The fight we have to wage is an unceasing one against ignorance and prejudice. Our critics say that the only messages that come through are trivialities. Trivialities are evidential—life is composed of them, but life itself is no triviality.

Most people spend their lives in trivial things—why should they be different there? Our worst opposition comes from the orthodox Churches. I have no patience with those people. They have turned their faces against the spirit and it is no longer with them. They should have grasped psychical science with both hands.

The two Archbishops (Lang and Temple) formed a committee to enquire into Spiritualism. Its findings shook the Church to its foundations. That report found that communication with the spirit world *is a fact.*

The "Helen Duncan" Case

This upsets their dogmas. They would have to admit that revelation is not static. Of course not. Revelation is eternal. Naturally, the report was suppressed.

We Spiritualists, in England, are not allowed to broadcast a religious service because "*Spiritualism is not in the mainstream of Christian tradition,*" whatever that may mean. Very well, we shall have to fight for it.

Take the Helen Duncan case. When I went into the box at the Old Bailey, I knew that the case was already in the bag, and that they were going to put Helen Duncan behind bars.

There is no question about her genuineness. She is one of the greatest physical mediums in Europe. She went to prison because of an antiquated law.

Ignorance Deplorable

At Altrincham the action of the police suppressed a public meeting. Herbert Morrison's reply to questions in the House was a complete evasion of the facts. But what does the House of Commons know about the things of the spirit? The ignorance on spiritual matters of the people who are supposed to represent us is deplorable.

* * *

I remember a tense and inspiring moment during one of my lectures, I asked that all those in the audience who had positive communication with the so-called dead should rise; *and the majority of those present stood in silence.*

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The stained glass window placed in front of the church (See reproduction above) is a beautiful product of the ancient craft. It is a galaxy of color and richness of graphic detail . . . illustrating the Old and New Testament Dispensations; the book of Revelation bearing the Greek Alpha and Omega ciphers. In short, the real purpose of this window is to vividly portray the real story of spiritual truths and personal conscicus survival.

On the window, below center is a picture of the FOX COTTAGE, where Modern Spiritualism began in 1848.

Rev. Heyliager, pastor of the church, is a lecturer, teacher, healer, mental and trance medium. He says: "Over a year has elapsed since we began our reconstruction program. Today, the second and final phase has begun. We have assembled one of the largest libraries of psychic, occult and spiritual books. It is accessible at all times to members of the church congregation. Our study classes and church services are well attended and we plan to continue to build our organization.

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SPIRITUALISM

What It Offers

Let It Be Your Bridge Across the Gulf

By ERNEST OATEN

THE problem of death has agitated the minds of thoughtful people throughout human history. We are born into this world and as our consciousness unfolds we contract friendships and affections with a number of our fellows.

In some cases the tendrils of our affections entwine themselves around one another's hearts, and constitute the essentials of mutual happiness: and then—one is taken and the other left. It is often true that in such circumstances we feel that half our life has gone.

We gaze upon the unresponsive form—once warm with life—and find it hard to believe that such intellect, such affection, has ceased for ever. Human affection refuses to succumb to death as the last thing.

"Hope Springs Eternal"

Men have symbolized death in many forms. To some he has appeared as "*the last enemy — the king of terrors,*" the burglar of our hopes, the despoiler of our happiness.

To others, particularly when pain and suffering has preceded his coming, he has been the angel of deliverance, the ferryman across the Styx, the opener of the gates leading to peace and rest.

Thus he has become friend or foe according to the circumstances of his visitation. Man has stood upon the landing stage and watched the departure of his loved ones, waving to them his fond farewells, but his restricted vision has been unable to follow the voyager across the hitherto uncharted seas, and determine whether or no there is a port of arrival at the other end.

It has been well said that "hope springs eternal in the human breast," and that statement is surely exemplified in man's reaction to death. He has refused to believe that justice would rob him of the affection and friendship he has labored to win, and which has sweetened his life.

It Is Natural to Die

Hence the hope of reunion at some distant date has mitigated his sense of loss and given him courage to face the future. The weakness of his position is that such hope has rested upon his emotional, rather than his intellectual promptings.

Such hopes, however, have been reinforced in all ages by the occasional appearances of ghosts, by dreams, trances, premonitions, voices and other unaccountable phenomena, but since these have been experienced by only a small minority of the race, they have been attributed to illusion, hallucination, vivid imagination or wishful thinking, and have excited the scorn and ridicule of the skeptical.

It is quite beside the mark to speak of such experiences as primitive superstitions: they are as widespread in highly civilized lands in modern times as amongst less cultured people.

In broad outline we have to recognize the phenomenon of death as a normal part of nature's plan. It is as natural to die as to be born. Birth and death are recurring ripples on the ocean of existence, and if the Universe is not a chaos then each must have a purposeful place in the scheme of things.

Old Conception of Death

Death has been looked upon as a terminus—the end of a line of activity—but with the growth of science a new aspect is arising which offers the conviction that nothing can be destroyed. The coal burned in the kitchen grate is not destroyed, though it ceases to exist as coal.

By combustion its energies are liberated but they do not cease to be. The ashes are not all that remain: there are such things as light and heat, which have escaped from the coal but which still exist. Many scientific minds accept the postulate that the sum total of matter and energy in the Universe are constant.

We transform them, but are unable to destroy them, and this concept is throwing a modern light on the old conception of death. We are coming to regard it as a transformation—a new orientation of factors, and the question that arises is whether we can trace the transformed elements which at one time were confined to a physical body.

When my fire ceases to burn, by reason of the escape of energy from the coal, I am able to trace that energy by means of suitable instruments—the thermometer, etc. I use a material instrument to trace it, but it is traceable.

Spiritualism's Evidence

Now when a man dies certain form of energy or manifestation are released. Thought, affection, will, sense perception, etc., no longer operate through the inert body. Can they be traced? *Spiritualism claims and offers overwhelming evidence that they can!*

An instrument—a medium—is necessary, and it must be one suited to the job. With the right medium adjusted to the task and operating under the right conditions, it is possible to show that all the human factors once associated with the inanimate form—the emotions, intellect, will, etc., still exist and continue to be integrated together in what we know as personality.

Thus mediumship becomes the bridge across the gulf of death. Its foundations are laid upon the solid rock of the phenomenal evidence of spirit communion and the establishment of personal identity.

This enables us to study the phenomenon of death from both sides—from the arrival as well as the departure platforms—and to establish on solid grounds and for all time the hope so long held by the visionary, the seer, and the mystic that "death is swallowed up in victory."

"Two Worlds"

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IBSEN
As An
OCCULTIST

Another in the long and noble list of writers who KNEW . . . but did not know WHY.

By
RATHMELL WILSON

BERNARD SHAW has described *Ibsen* as "the crustiest, grimmest hero since *Beethoven*."

William Archer, the translator of his plays into English, wrote, after meeting him of his "*expression of reserve, almost of secretiveness.*"

In considering him as an occultist, all this crustiness, grimness, reserve, secretiveness explain, I think, a great deal.

His occultism was extremely occult. His attitude towards it was I imagine, very much like his attitude towards his constant reading of the Bible.

His friend, *Sir Edmund Gosse*, wrote:—"*He disliked having his partiality for the Bible commented upon and, if religious people expressed pleasure at finding him deep in the sacred volume, he would reply roughly 'it is for the sake of the language!'*" . . .

Not Mysteries To Him

To any who asked him about psychic matters he probably replied even more roughly for in his day occultism was held in much disfavor and, always an extremely good business man, he knew that knowledge of his interest in it would do for him far more harm than good with his Public.

Like *Dickens* he had his mascots. "*Odd little objects, fetiches, stood arranged on his writing table and were never to be touched.*"

Sir Edmund Gosse has told us, "*He gazed at them until, as if by some feat of magic, he turned them into living persons.*"

Of *Halvard Solness*, the magician hero of *The Master Builder*, he once said "*He is a man who is somewhat related to me.*"

Of his remarkable play, *Emperor and Galilean*, which is full of knowledge of the mysteries and the mystics, he wrote to his great friend, *Hegel*, "*I have put more of my spiritual experience into it than I would altogether like the Public to realize.*"

The Master Builder is thought by many to be his masterpiece. It tells of a builder who called upon "*helpers* and *servers*" to make a house burn down.

Spiritual Evolution

Owing to this tragedy, he became a masterbuilder, "*a Success*" but it also caused the death of his sons, the collapse of his wife, eternal mental misery which drove him to his death. It is one of the finest studies in dramatic literature and its text might well have been a quotation from Madam Blavatsky's *Key to Theosophy*:—"*The smallest attempt to use one's abnormal powers for the gratification of self, makes of those powers sorcery or black magic.*"

Emperor and Galilean was the play into which he put most labor and which he always liked best of them all.

When he lived in Rome, much interest was heing taken in Spiritualism by many studen's, including the *Brownings*, and it was probably here that he obtained his material for the marvellous seance scene in which the Emperor visits *Maximus*, the medium, a scene accurate from the occult point of view in every detail and which only an occultist (in the sense of one with much knowledge of occultism) could have written.

Henrik IBSEN

When his power had reached maturity, he set himself to a task which he declared he "*felt had been laid upon him by the hand of God — to arouse his fellow-countrymen and lead them to think great thoughts*" — occult thoughts!

In a speech made at Christiania, he declared that he was convinced that "*after much tribulation, man would be saved from the Anti-Christ of materialism by the revelation of many truths hitherto concealed.*"

"*I am,*" he said, "*an optimist looking forward to that which is to come.*"

Like all true occultists, he was patient about spiritual evolution.

Poetic Interpretation

Isabelle M. Pagan has made a most interesting Theosophical version of *Peer Gynt* which has been acted in London (when incidentally, I had the great pleasure of appearing as Peer!) and broadcast in Glasgow. She maintains, very successfully I think, that this play "*depicts the life of the hero upon the three planes of body, mind and spirit.*"

"*Peer* must be looked upon as a type of the Prodigal Son going forth into physical incarnation in blindness and ignorance, gradually evolving through variety of experience.

"*Solveig*, the heroine, the pure maiden whom he loves but of whom he feels unworthy, represents his higher self whom he must ultimately wed even if not in his present incarnation.

"The sight of her awakens him to the worthlessness of his lower desires but, chained by past misdoings, he cannot achieve union at once."

"*Miss Pagan*" wrote Bernard Shaw, "*regards the death of Peer as occurring in a scene where all the wasted possibilities of his life drift about him as withered leaves or fluffs of bog-cotton.*

"'Nature is ironical he says bitterly, and that discovery of his own nothingness is taken by Miss Pagan as his death. It is impossible to demur to so poetic an interpretation."

Labels Irritated Him

Ibsen denied that *Peer Gynt* had any psychic significance, denied that he was an occultist! "Most of us take psychic things for granted' a Norseman once said to Miss Pagan.

I think it is very probable that when asked if the play was occult, if he was an occultist, Ibsen, hater of all labels, simply begged the question.

When asked if his famous play *The Doll's House* was what all the world imagined it to be, a plea for Women's rights, he replied "I do not really know what Women's rights are. It is Humanity I wish to raise to Liberty."

Long and noble is the list of writers influenced by occultism.

It is because of his true greatness, his rugged courage, his hatred of all shams, it is *because his name is a name so well worth having* that I have tried to prove here that, however much the label might have irritated him as all labels irritated him — we have every right to add proudly to this list the glorious name of *HENRIK IBSEN.*

"Prediction"

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Clairvoyant Message Received by Physician Contains Incontrovertible Evidence

October 14th, 1944, I received a clairvoyant message through the mediumship of *Rev. Maude Fox* in the city of Detroit, Michigan. It all happened at one of the regular Sunday evening services sponsored by *The First Spiritualist Episcopal Church* (*). There were over 500 persons in the audience.

After Rev. Fox had delivered a most inspiring lecture, a message service was given by *Pearl Crain* and *Rev. James Laughton*. Before closing, Rev. Fox was announced as the final message bearer of the evening and toward the close of her demonstration, the following message was given to me:

"Here is Sally. She wants to contact her brother John."

Dr. Hett. "Here."

Rev. Maude Fox. "Here is Minnie."

Dr. Hett. "Correct."

Rev. Maude Fox. "And Alice."

Dr. Hett. "Correct."

Rev. Maude Fox. "Alice tells me you had a family monument erected in Kitchener, Ont., more than thirty years ago?"

Dr. Hett. "Correct."

Rev. Maude Fox. "Standing on the top there is a life size statue of your sister Alice?"

Dr. Hett. "Correct."

Rev. Maude Fox. "You had the statue of your sister carved in Italy from a photograph you sent of her to Italy?"

Dr. Hett. "Correct."

Rev. Maude Fox. "She holds in her hand a trumpet?"

Dr. Hett. "Correct."

Rev. Maude Fox. "Here is something you don't know. A piece is chipped out of the trumpet beneath her hand."

Dr. Hett. "I don't know anything about that."

Rev. Maude Fox. "Go and see."

Naturally I was anxious to check on the details given me in the latter part of this message. Accompanied by some friends, I immediately set about my investigation and found everything as stated by the medium.

I don't believe there was anybody in Kitchener or any other town that ever saw the small piece chipped out of the trumpet. Furthermore, it would have been impossible for Rev. Fox to have known this detail for she had never visited Kitchener in her life. I had a photographer take a photo of the monument (see above).

There is, in my opinion, only one explanation possible. My sister, who passed away over 45 years ago, saw evidence of a piece having been chipped out—referred to it in her contact through Rev. Fox, who in turn relayed this message to me before the large Detroit audience.

Suffice to say, during the last fifty years of my investigations of psychic science and spirit communication, I have received marvelous tests—many verified later, but to me, this message was one of the most evidential.

J. E. HETT, M.D.,
607 Sherborne St.,
Toronto, Ont., Canada

o o

(*) Now known as The First Spiritualist Church of Detroit, with services by Rev. James Laughton every Sunday evening in the Institute of Arts Bldg., 5200 Woodward Ave.

. . . And Some DO Prophecy

By RUSSELL LANDSTROM
Associated Press Staff Correspondent.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—The age-old belief that human beings can, at times and in certain circumstances, obtain fleeting glimpses of future events, is supported by the results of experiments conducted for three years by *S. G. Soal* of the Mathematics Department, Queen Mary College, London University.

Prof. *Ifor Evans*, principal of Queen Mary College, said the strange faculty which the tests are alleged to affirm is known as precognitive-telepathy.

Mr. Soal experimented with a professional photographer and a pack of cards. Placed in a room apart, the subject guessed, not the card chosen for him, but the one to follow, and he did this often enough, Mr. Soal said, that "*the odds against the whole series of tests being due to change are stupendous and are represented by a figure consisting of ten followed by 34 naughts.*"

Leading Scientists Impressed

Prof. Evans said the experiments were witnessed by several eminent scientists who asserted the outcome would have important implications for philosophy.

The work developed from earlier experiments by Mr. Soal, who tested 160 persons and accumulated more than 128,000 guesses of cards bearing different geometrical symbols. He found that two of the 160 had registered a number of "hits" far above chance on both the preceding and the following card.

In each instance, the cards were exposed for a few seconds to an agent who was with Mr. Soal behind an opaque screen.

It was not clear whether the subject was getting his knowledge in some way from the card to follow on top of the pack, which was face down, or whether he was foreseeing an image that was to be in the agent's mind a few seconds later.

A Significant Discovery

Therefore, more elaborate experiments were made. Cards were inscribed with animal pictures and the guesser was in a separate room from Mr. Soal, the agent and the cards.

"It was soon apparent that the subject was registering significant scores on the card one place ahead," he continued.

"We discovered that the experiment succeeded only when the agent looked at the faces of the cards one by one, and this fact suggested the subject was obtaining his knowledge of the card one ahead, not from the card itself, but from a reading of a future state of the mind of the person who gazed at the symbol on its face. That is, he was foreseeing what would be in the agent's mind 2½ seconds later."

"One day the interval between the successive card presentations was reduced from 2½ to 1½ seconds, and the subject ceased to guess correctly the next card, but began to score 'hits' on the next but one.

"This redoubtable discovery made it more certain than ever that the displacement of the guess was truly a displacement into future time and not merely a spatial shift. The subject's choice was being decided by a future event in the agent's mind.

"A mental event still in the future apparently was affecting a present mental event, and seemingly the normal law of causation was being reversed."

Clipped from Buffalo Evening News, submitted by Ernest Cawcroft.

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Reincarnation

It is a logical sequence of the continuing life of the soul apart from the physical body. Reincarnation properly understood, reveals to man the eternal nature of life.

The Answer To Many Who Ask: WHY?, WHY?, WHY?

By

WHITE EAGLE

Through the Mediumship of Grace Cooke.

Our subject is, we fear, somewhat controversial; but controversy is good. We cannot do without differing opinions. We learn through exchange of thought; nevertheless, we are well aware that the theme of Reincarnation is thorny, since many reject it because they do not like the idea of coming back to earth.

They, therefore, see no purpose in reincarnation, and will have none of it. Another strong argument against the truth of reincarnation is that we cannot remember our past lives.

Therefore we are too apt to dismiss reincarnation by saying it is not true. But once a wider vision opens and a deeper memory of the past awakens in the soul, thereafter that soul *knows;* and no amount or argument will ever convince such a soul that reincarnation is untrue.

What Is Consciousness?

We have already dealt with the subject of **Life after Death*, a question in which most people are interested—not all people, however. Some say they have an open mind, but no deep convictions, for they see little purpose in survival after death.

The subject of *Reincarnation* follows as a logical sequence of the continuing life of the soul apart from the physical body. *Reincarnation* reveals to men the eternal nature of life.

When a man is once convinced of the continuity of life, when he can see that through reincarnation there can be revealed a wide and grand purpose in all life's experiences, it gives him hope not only for the future, but hope for the present.

It gives to him a reason for many of life's happenings.

Life's purpose begins to reveal itself. He sees that the soul travels a journey which commenced when it was *breathed-forth* from the heart of God; and, descending through the spheres of spiritual life, came to earth to gain experience, to gain consciousness.

Consciousness of what? Consciousness of itself first, and of its own vast and deep potentialities; and in gaining this knowledge of itself, the microcosm, it begins to gain knowledge of God, the macrocosm.

Life Becomes Logical

With such knowledge opening, the whole plan of life becomes logical and the soul stands revealed as something that is eternal. The human spirit descends from its Creator down the cycle of life, and knows incarnation not once, but many, many times.

Through this process of succeeding incarnations it gains *quality of consciousness*—eventually such a rich quality that it becomes *God-conscious.*

No great number of people now in incarnation have attained to such God-consciousness, but great numbers of souls who have passed through incarnation on earth once reached this stage, a fact evident to the student of past and present religions, and to the student of the philosophers, the poets, and the scriptures of all ages.

When such spiritual consciousness is attained by any soul, that soul realizes, recognizes, the truth that it is itself eternal. As that soul goes about the world it becomes awakened; memories of ages past and its own past lives stir within and a familiar chord may be struck when that soul meets certain people.

It is remembering, vaguely at first, a past life; the soul that it has contacted vibrates to the same chord. It also knows. Thus souls can meet and recognize each other.

Arguments Against

We are well aware that people try to argue against this teaching of the *Ancient Wisdom.* Well, it does not matter; neither argument nor opinion can alter truth. Sooner or later he who argues against this truth will be for it, he will suddenly know that he has lived on this earth before.

One of the paths by which to regain this memory of the past is meditation. This means the sustained contemplation, not of the daily-self but of the greater-self of God, by which the little-self is raised above the limitations of the here and now and the soul catches a vision of the past from which it came, of the heights to which it will some day climb. Once the soul attains this super-conscious state, memories flood in upon it.

This varying quality of consciousness is an interesting fact, proving the varying stages of spiritual understanding to which man can reach.

By studying humanity you will find that there are many people unable to understand even elementary spiritual truth. They may be intellectual and clever, but still incapable of seeing, hearing or comprehending anything spiritual in spite of their ability and so-called common sense.

Path of Eternal Progress

In other words, they lack the quality of consciousness, or the ripeness of consciousness, which can alone give them comprehension.

Many others require no argument, they do not need to be convinced of spiritual truth; it is already there in them; they are born with it. Many people are apt to believe that it is easier for some people to be good than for themselves.

We would say that the opportunities are about equal. The quality of consciousness which the soul brings back into incarnation depends entirely on the life which preceded it. When this quality is developed it will naturally and normally be spiritual in its nature, with knowledge of the life after death.

Such souls do not regard such a procedure as a succession of incarnations as objectionable or in any way retrogressive, but see it revealed as a path of eternal progress; they will see that as the soul returns to each successive life it bears with it a richer quality of consciousness—which, by the way, can only be attained through the everyday experience, suffering and hard work of physical life.

Life Purposeful

Do you not begin to see the reason, the wonderful reason for such a belief as reincarnation? Do you not see the purpose which hides behind every disappointment, that nerves every attainment in everyday life? By all these the soul is forging ahead, gaining experience and developing this soul-consciousness.

Recognizing, therefore, my friends, how long it takes us all to learn any simple lesson, let us think very earnestly about the number of incarnations necessary to the soul before it can attain true greatness.

How slowly, how obstinately and reluctantly do we learn, and this particularly in the early incarnations of the soul. How dull we are at glimpsing spiritual truth!

Forgetfulness

The reason why memories of our past lives are rare is because the memories are stored in the superconscious mind; and not in the everyday earthly mind.

In this connection shall we remind ourselves how difficult we find it to remember incidents of our babyhood and childhood, and even to recall details of that which happened only a few months ago; and how easily we forget much of what we read and what we hear.

Confronted with this faulty power of recollection how can we then deny the truth of reincarnation because we cannot remember any past lives of ours? . . . After all, what would be the use of such memories?

Many people would think them entirely unnecessary. *"Let us get on with the present,"* they say. *"and forge ahead into the future; do not look back—it is unhealthy."*

My friends, we should not probe the past through self-desire, through self-pride. Thus would we answer the critics who depreciate reincarnation by saying, *"Oh yes, I know all about it. A strange thing is that every other person who believes in reincarnation claims to have once been either a king or queen, or other notable historical character."*

We would refute this criticism here and now. Such memories or such statements originate because of pride in the individual. We cannot all have been great, true; but we do know that it is sometimes necessary for souls who once held a position of power to reincarnate subsequently in very humble positions.

We know also that people who lived in obscure conditions wisely, truly and honorably prepare themselves for a subsequent incarnation which affords them greater dignity, power and opportunity to serve mankind.

How To Know Truth

The whole purpose of reincarnation is for the development and training of the soul. The soul must learn how to use power wisely and humbly; the soul must learn how to accept with simplicity and humility the limitations which it has earned before it can find the truth concerning itself.

My friends, go into the inner chamber, the inner sanctuary, into the silence, thinking not about self at all, but contemplating the beauty of God. There be raised in spirit—perhaps not immediately, but after a succession of periods of meditation and contemplation, the soul will rise and absorb a spiritual quality which brings to it vision. *Then it will know truth.*

Karma

We find it impossible to separate our theme, *Reincarnation,* from that of the *Law of Cause and Effect,* a Law which is being demonstrated with every moment of life that passes, for all is action and reaction, cause and effect.

Sow a seed and reap the harvest. Sow a habit and reap a character. What is all this but the workings of what the Easterners call the *Law of Karma* (of Cause and Effect), so necessary for us to comprehend?

Some people think that *Karma* merely affects the eastern races, but they are wrong. In the East the ancient and wise Ones knew that reincarnation and Karma went hand in hand.

They knew that every thought and act of a man in time would bring its due result. They knew it was impossible for a soul to escape the result of its own actions, in spite of the many who think that death cuts all things short.

Suffering Has Its Purpose

Some souls who pass to the spirit world apparently escape retribution for their sins and shortcomings. They appear to live in comfort and happiness, much as many people dwell comfortably and complacently down here on earth.

Their past actions and how they affect the whole community apparently bothers them not at all; but, consider — whatever a man soweth in laziness, in complacency, in indifference to the sufferings of others, he will experience himself.

Perhaps not in this incarnation, perhaps not in the spirit world during his soul's period of rest, or in the intermediary state between one life and another; but as sure as night follows day, men, nations and races meet that which they have meted out to others either by active evil or cruelty through neglect, which latter might be called inactive cruelty.

A vast total of suffering results from man's inaction, because of men and women not being sufficiently interested in the welfare of others.

Through the suffering which the soul is forced to meet at some time, in some life, it eventually learns to feel for the troubles of others. Through such feeling its imagination is awakened.

Because so great a lack of imagination exists, the only way that the soul can learn to understand others is for that soul to undergo similar experiences. The child does not know that fire burns until it has itself received a burn.

Then it will not forget.

This is the answer to the many who ask *Why?—Why?—Why?*—what have I done that this trouble should come—to me?

All we can reply is that we have either done something, or refrained from or needlessly neglected some opportunity to serve

(Continued Page 11, Col. 1)

TEXAN MEDIUM

Psychic Observer

EVELYN CUMMINS, 204 Gorman St., San Antonio, Texas; lecturer, teacher and mental medium; secretary of the Texas Spiritual Christian Synod; co-pastor of the First Spiritual Christian Church, 503 Trenton Ave., San Antonio (2) Texas.

Mrs. Cummins entered spiritual work in 1932 at the Westminster Spiritual Christian Church. She is a certified medium of the Texas State Spiritualist Association and a fifth degree member of the Brotherhood of Light holding certificates in various branches of Hermetic Sciences.

BOOKS IN REVIEW

By JOSEPH ANTHONY

"In a single mighty burst of invention, Nikola Tesla created the world of power of today," says JOHN J. O'NEILL in "PRODIGAL GENIUS." (*)

The incredible Serb, according to Mr. O'Neill, had a mind that was like an elemental force. "He brought into being our electrical power era . . . He created the race of robots, the electrical mechanical men that are replacing human labor; he gave us every essential of modern radio; he invented the radar forty years before its use in World War II . . . He gave us remote control by wireless."

Nicola TESLA

Books dealing with applied science often make me feel like the Indian who wanted to know about the workings of an automobile—and after an hour of explanation said, "I understand everything except what makes it go without horses." But Mr. O'Neill, who is science editor of the New York Herald Tribune, has a flair for expressing technical principles in terms that a layman can understand. And he hasn't neglected the human side of the story.

During his boyhood in Serbia, the biographer tells, Tesla went through two dangerous illnesses. The first time, he turned the corner after a translation of one of Mark Twain's books which revived his appetite for life. (Later, he and Mark Twain became firm friends.) The second time, his will to live was restored by his father's promise to send him to college to study electrical engineering.

A few years after his arrival in America as a penniless immigrant, Tesla sold a series of patents for a million dollars. Later, as a favor to a friend, he tore up a contract that woud have netted him an additional twelve million in royalties. Once, when he was due at a scientific meeting to accept a high honor, he played truant and was found feeding the pigeons on Fifth Avenue.

Mr. O'Neill reveals Tesla's blind spots and pathetic weaknesses as well as his greatness. This sensitive biography is worthy of its subject.

(*) Published by Ives Washburn; for sale by Dale News, Inc., $3.75.

**See "Psychic Observer," Nov. 10th, 1944.*

Used Books — Supply Limited

WHO'S WHO in Occultism, Psychism and Spiritualism; compiled and edited by William C. Hartmann. This is the 1927 edition and was priced at $5.00 per copy. A few copies, practically new, priced at $1.00

THE COMMON SENSE PHILOSOPHY OF SPIRIT OR PSYCHOLOGY; written from spirit impression by Charles H. Foster, Alameda, California; practically new with black stiff binding (402 pages) $1.00

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REINCARNATION

(Continued from Page 10, Col. 5)

or to express kindness to our fellow men. This is why the suffering came.

You will ask then, *what is the good of it all?* protesting that because you cannot remember what happened so long ago, the suffering fails in its object.

To which the answer that if your physical brain cannot remember, your deeper consciousness knows well that it has earned the experience.

God-given Opportunity

But perhaps your experience may not necessarily result from either action or inaction, but because of neglect of opportunity. This is a strange saying, but suffering and disappointment often offer opportunity to the soul.

Once the soul knows this it will accept its lesson with humility, will not question and will not demand to know why. By its quality of consciousness gained it has either repaid a debt or earned the opportunity to expand.

Do you not see such an understanding of life's principles as this means to men and women? It means inward peace, it means assured happiness deep within; it means complete trust and faith in God's love and God's wisdom, in the wise laws which control the universe, and which control the *Life of Man;* which commenced with the birth of the soul aeons ago and come to fruition when that soul stands forth, a perfect God-man.

Just Another Chance

Brethren, we tell you that reincarnation is no weary round of birth and death. After touching the high spheres of light and glory, an inexorable law does not force the reluctant soul back to the dull, drab conditions of physical life.

No—something far more beautiful happens. The soul after death passes onward into a state of light and peace, and there is able to review itself.

Do you know what the soul instinctively yearns for when it sees its past in due perspective?—it cries, *"Oh, my God, for another chance! I will do better — next time."* Is not this logical?

How few of us fail to look back over our years and say that if only we had our time over again what different lives we would lead! God in His mercy offers such another opportunity to the soul.

The Diver's Suit

The soul when descending leaves in the heaven world a higher part of itself. Every mortal man and woman has that higher self, which continues to dwell in the higher spheres. The influence of that higher self comes through sometimes in the voice of conscience, or that aspiration which rises at moments to spiritual ecstasy.

The little or the mortal self comes back as a worker, much as a diver descends into the ocean depths; and, like the diver, comes down clothed uncomfortably and not very beautifully sometimes, so far as outer appearances are concerned. Inside that diver's dress is probably a kind and genial soul.

We all come back to earth in our diver's suit. If we could once see the inside self of our brothers and sisters, what a different attitude of mind we would adopt! We do not see this, however, until we have attained that quality of consciousness in ourselves which reveals not the outside covering, but the man inside.

Masonic Phrasing

The purpose of our descent into the bed of the ocean is to gather treasure—which some people call experience. At death we take our treasure (great or small) back with us to the higher self, to that temple which we are building in the heavens.

In the old Masonic phrasing, *"the soul comes forth to labor on the earth; but it returns to its true home, to its true self for refreshment; then again it returns to labor."*

This ancient teaching is a profound truth. Its acceptance should add much beauty to life, bring to you all encouragement and an inward happiness; because you will then know that however simple, however limited your life may be, everything is worth while; because life provides you with opportunities to grow, to be educated, to continually develop this glorious quality of soul-consciousness which will eventually reveal truth and God.

Life's Whole Purpose

So we return to our task, which is to live fully and freely. If any memory of our past lives help us to gain this quality of consciousness, to climb faster and higher, that memory is worth while; but if not, do not probe or worry about it.

Life's whole purpose is to increase your consciousness of God's love, God's beauty, God's laws.

So, my friends, peace be with you, joy fill your hearts, for the mists will roll away and you will understand and enter into the glories of heaven.

God bless you everyone. God bless you all.

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(P-152-157)

TRANCE MEDIUM

Psychic Observer

KATHRYN BAXTER, 41 Elm St., Camden, Maine; noted psychic artist and trance medium; formerly from Lily Dale N. Y., Buffalo, N. Y., and Portsmouth, Virginia.

The picture above was loaned to PSYCHIC OBSERVER by Lillian Biehoff of New York City who reports that Mrs. Baxter will continue her psychic work in the near future . . . having recovered from a serious illness.

Mediumship Made Easy

Have Courage and Learn To Trust Your Collaborator

By G. E. GREGEEN

THE title of this article is not intended to give the reader the impression that mediumship is a gift that can be acquired merely by reading a book of words or conducting a correspondence course.

Far too many people are eager to accept the slightest evidence of the supernormal in their lives as a sign of mediumship, and it is these undeveloped self-styled mediums who can cause the true student of the occult to be ridiculed and discredited.

It is my contention that true mediumship is a gift, just as surely as the flair for painting, music or writing, which some possess. Although nearly all people who recognize the possibility of communication with the after life possess latent powers of mediumship which can be developed and improved.

During the years that I have been practising as a medium, both in my civilian capacity as a journalist, and in the forces, many people have asked me *"How do I know if I am a medium?"*

Read Good Books!

Perhaps the easiest way to explain would be to recount my own approach to active mediumship, in the hope that my experiences, some of which were not too pleasant, will be of benefit to other would-be mediums.

When I was nearly twelve years of age my mother passed over in rather tragic circumstances, and having been an only child, and a *Mother's Boy*, I missed her tremendously. Secretly I determined that, somehow, I would get her back to me.

Getting hold of some books on *Spiritualism* was not a difficult job, and in the evenings I could have been found in my bedroom *"swotting"* the sciences of the occult, rather than studying geometrical theorems.

I waited until I had assimilated a fair portion of the fundamentals of Spiritualism and then determined that the first night I was left alone in the house I would hold a seance.

When the opportunity arrived I prepared my bedroom "as per the *book*" and settled down to wait, mentally willing that if there were any spirits present they would rap three times on my fireplace.

Two hours passed by and nothing happened, then just as I was about to give it up in despair three sharp raps came in the appointed place. I took to my heels and left the house, only returning when the other members of the family came back.

Such was my initiation into Spiritualism!

After my preliminary scare, I decided to give it a miss for a while at least, but having surmounted the difficulties of my initiation those on the other side, who were to be my guides were evidently not going to be content with my attitude.

Use Common Sense

After a while, I noticed that as I lay in bed at night tappings would go on at the head of my bed, and as I became accustomed to them they became more pronounced until finally they were loud and insistent and I would feel my hair being stroked and my bed being shaken.

All this was over a period of time, and eventually I began to notice that my dreams turned out to be premonitions and I had vivid mind pictures of events which were invariably confirmed a few days later.

One night I experienced the entire feelings of a person who passed over in rather gruesome circumstances and was in pain the whole of the next day. It was while I was recounting this particular dream to a *Mr. J. Evans*, an undertaker of *Liverpool*, that he realized that I was unwittingly being used as a medium, and advised me to attend a developing circle.

There, under the guidance of the spirit who has since become my own guide, I was instructed in what to do, and learned which spirits to accept or refuse.

I learned to disseminate in clairvoyance between the *"corn"* of the spirit impression and the *"chaff"* of my own thoughts, and what was to be most important to me later in my career as a trance medium, allowing myself to be used for experiments in psychic research, I learned to have utmost faith in the guides, and to follow their advice implicitly.

Trust Your Collaborators

If a person finds that they are getting *"hunches"* which are later confirmed, they should not think they are mediums and go straight on with public work. A medium who is to be worth his weight should have a working knowledge of every type of psychic phenomena so that he would be ready for any exigency that might arise.

Many mediums are too prone to say *"Oh! I don't bother with clairvoyance,"* or *"I never bother with materialization!"* and dismiss every type of phenomena except that in which they specialize.

To *"sum-up"* we might say that the qualifications of a good medium, or of a prospective medium are—*Courage, Trust* in the *Guides,* and most of all humility. Because the word medium, translated literally means *"instrument."*

The medium is merely the instrument or *"mouthpiece"* of the communicating spirit. He is a servant of his fellow men, and should therefore be willing to sublimate his own personality.

"Prediction"

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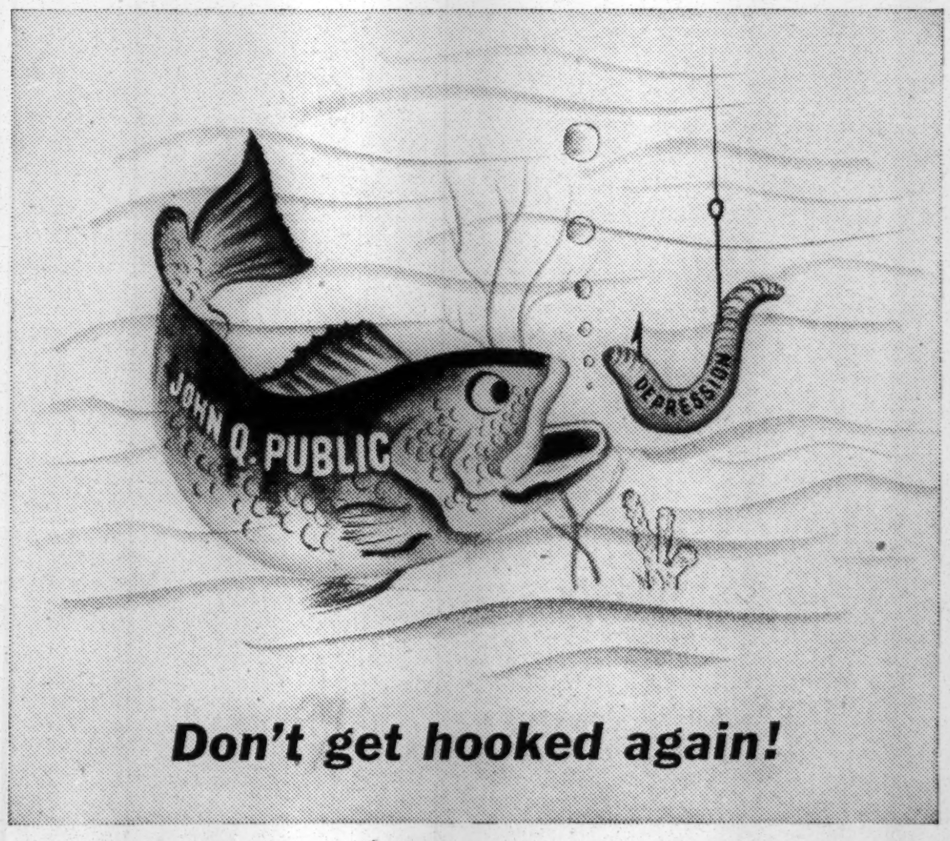

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It's the best way to protect yourself against a depression if one should occur, *and* the best way to prepare yourself for tomorrow's opportunities if times are good.

The smart thing today is to save, not splurge. Don't get hooked again!

4 THINGS TO DO to keep prices down and help avoid another depression

1. Buy only what you really need.

2. When you buy, pay no more than ceiling prices. Pay your ration points in full.

3. Keep your *own* prices down. Don't take advantage of war conditions to ask more for your labor, your services, or the goods you sell.

4. *Save.* Buy and hold all the War Bonds you can afford—to help pay for the war and insure your future. Keep up your insurance.

A United States War message prepared by the War Advertising Council; approved by the Office of War Information; and contributed by this magazine in cooperation with the Magazine Publishers of America.

ROBERTA COLDREN DYER
1411 Gregory Avenue
Wilmett, Illinois

Ida Lupino Believes In Spirit Return

Even If You've Always Been a Skeptic You Will Find It Difficult To Ignore Her Startling Psychic Experiences

Confidence and Faith Are Necessary

By BEE BANGS

IDA LUPINO held her friends spellbound with one of the strangest personal true stories ever told.

"I want to tell that story," she said, "because it may give some woman, some place, a little more courage and faith that the man she loves will return safely, and if not, that he still goes on in another life, where they may some day meet again."

Ida told her tale in an incongruous setting — curled up in a chair beside an auto court on Warners' Stage 4. With a robe wrapped over a nightgown, she was waiting for her next scene in her new comedy, *"Pillar To Post."*

"It Is All True"

Her story is about a cousin, James Branford, who was reported missing in action and about her father, *Stanley Lupino*, the famous playwright and actor, who died in England about two years ago.

Such things are not the usual topic of between-scene conversations, but a British Army officer visiting on the set, had taken Miss Lupino's thoughts back to England. They reminisced over mutually familiar streets in London. They talked of bombs and the casualty lists.

"You may doubt what I'm going to tell you," said Ida, "but it's as true as the fact that I'm sitting here on this stage.

A Spirit Is Seen

This cousin of mine was a squadron leader in the R.A.F. He was brought down during a flight over Germany about a year ago and he was reported missing in action.

"Friends tried to help his mother to keep faith that he would return. Two or three months went by. She wrote to my mother that she had lost all hope. She had talked with Jim's pilot friends and they had seen his plane go down.

"Then mother received another letter from her, and we found it hard to believe what she told us. She said we'd probably think that grief had touched her mind. But she vowed on the love she had for Jim, that my father, who died about two years ago, walked into her house and told her that Jim was safe."

Ida said the last time she saw her father was before the war, eight years ago, when he came here to visit her. A year and a half before that, she had gone to England to see him.

Spirits Recognized

She had always been very close to her father. It was *Stanley Lupino* who taught classic drama to Ida when she was seven years old. He watched her career with professional as well as parental interest.

Ida LUPINO

When Ida, her mother and her sister, Rita, were all at home in England, Stanley used to tell them that he was psychic. He didn't speak of it often but they knew he believed in an after life — that people could recognize loved ones who had passed on. He told them he would return to them after he had gone.

Ida remembers him saying one time, that he would come back when he was most needed. Of course none of the family gave it any thought at the time.

"Jim's father is an officer of the Bank of England," Ida went on. "He was out all day and often in the evenings, doing his air warden work. One night my aunt was sitting in the living room, with her back to a door that led into the hall. She heard the outside door open and called, 'Jack? Is that you?'

Sworn Statement

"There was no answer but she heard footsteps on the stone hallway. She felt that someone was standing behind her. She turned around and there was my father, looking just as he always did. He walked over to a chair beside the fire and sat down.

"Then father said quietly to her, 'Jimmy is a prisoner of war. He parachuted out in time and he is all right. I have seen him and I spoke to him. He is being treated well and he wants you to write to him. You will hear from the government about him!'"

Ida's aunt managed to ask Stanley Lupino if he was really there talking to her. He swore that she was seeing him. He told her that the beginning of the end of the war in Europe would be in *July*, and *eight months* later the war would be over in Europe. He said he had to leave and he got up from the chair.

Lupino's Experiences

Mrs. Branford begged him to tell her something about himself. He said he was happy and he was busy writing, and doing all the things he had always done. As he walked out she said, "Goodnight Stanley." She looked back at the chair and the cushions were indented as if someone has just been sitting there.

"Soon after that happened, Jimmy was reported safe,' said Ida. "I told you that story because it might help someone who is trying to keep up her courage. So many thousands of men come through safely even after they are reported missing in action."

Her listeners, curious about this psychic situation in her family, asked Miss Lupino if she had ever had such an experience herself.

"Two very strange things have happened to me in that respect," she replied. "I had a cook, out at my place in Brentwood, who liked to live in a trailer in the garden. She had been with me only three weeks and one evening she came dashing into the house. A strange man had walked into her trailer and said, 'Please tell Ida to try to get in touch with me right away'."

Facts Carefully Checked

Ida asked her cook what he looked like and when she described him, Ida understood. He was wearing brown trousers, he was in his shirt sleeves, and gold cuff bands were holding up his sleeves. He had a gold pencil behind his ear.

That is the way Stanley Lupino always looked when he was working on a play. His company had presented him with the cuff bands and he liked to wear them.

Ida immediately sent a cable to London and two days later received a reply—"Your father just passed away. He was asking for you."

"One other thing has happened that is hard to understand," said Ida. "The government placed an anti-aircraft unit in my garden for about three months. After a month or so, one of the men asked if he could bring his wife out to meet me. I told him I had a better idea than that—she could live in the house and perhaps help me a little with secretarial work if she wanted to.

"That girl knew nothing about my family—about my father or about the cook's experience. But she was there only a couple of weeks when she said she just couldn't stay in the house any longer. She had a feeling that someone was following her."

Ida, busy with her screen work, and all her war work, doesn't have much time to think about psychic experiences. She knows they happened.

"People Must Have Faith"

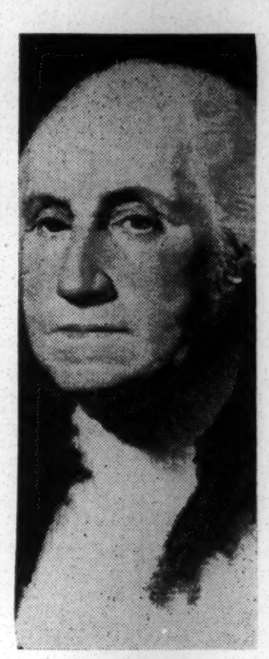
She spoke again of the need for confidence and courage when things are difficult. One of the most talented actresses on the screen, she has won critics' awards in spite of many personal difficulties of her own.

"They must have confidence," she said, "just like the one who is left at home, waiting for someone to return from the combat area."

Despite her own vivid personality, Ida Lupino admits there have been times when she has had to fight for confidence herself. Speaking from her own experiences she said, "People must have faith—they must acquire a peace of mind by believing that everything will turn out all right."

"Motion Picture" Magazine

"YOU SEEM NOT TO HAVE OUTGROWN WAR"



In the year 1882, over a period of several months, June 16th to August 25th to be exact, there has been recorded numerous messages purported to have been received from the spirit of George Washington.

These messages can be found in Chapter XII of the book "SPIRITS OF THE DEAD" compiled by C. G. Helleberg (pp. 141 to 156).

According to the explanation given by the author, the messages were received through the instrumentality of Lizzie S. Green, noted physical medium of her day.

Washington's message in part reads: "The duties of an American citizen is to sustain their government in war. War is a terrible thing to contemplate, and we would gladly crush it out in every vestige, but you seem as yet not to have outgrown and developed above and beyond it, and therefore we are compelled to notice the subject, however painful and sorrowful it may be.

"The time is not so very far distant in the future when nations and men will progress beyond this horrible relic of barbarism, when the fierce god of war will give pace to the sweet and gentle spirit of peace and brotherly love; when all differences will be amicably adjusted without a resort to the arbitrament of the sword and the instruments of devastation, bloodshed, and death."

Although over sixty years has elapsed many will wonder about the closing words of Washington for the record shows that he said:

"The time will come when the flag of the American republic will float over Canada, all the British Possessions on this continent, the island of Cuba, the natural key to the Gulf of Mexico as well as over the cultivated valleys, arid plateaus, and towering mountains of the land of the Montezumas, beyond the Rio Grande.

"Then will your system of government be remodeled and reconstructed upon a plan infinitely superior to your present one, and the United States will not only become the greatest nation the earth has ever known, but the nucleus around which, in time, all other nations will cluster and revolve, shouting the anthem of human equality and freedom and universal liberty."

The One Reality of Life Is OUR DUTY!

By EDWARD LESTER THORNE

Sir Thomas Browne said: *"Man is a noble animal! splendid in ashes, glorious in the grave; solemnizing nativities and funerals with equal luster, and not forgetting ceremonies of bravery in the infamy of his nature!"*

Thus spoke one who mocked while he wept at man's estate, and tempered gracefully the high scoffings of philosophy with the profound compassion of religion.

As the sun's proudest moment is his latest, and as the forest puts on its brightest robe to die in, so does man summon ostentation to invest the hour of his weakness, and pride survives when power has departed; and what, we may ask, does this instinctive contempt for the honors of the dead proclaim, except for the utter vanity of the glories of the living?

Human life is like a dream in the after-dinner sleep of a demon, in which an image of heaven is interrupted by a vision of hell; a thought of bliss breaks off to give place to a fancy of horror, and the fragments of happiness and discomfort lie mingled together in a confusion which would be ridiculous if it were not awful.

Not A Dream

The monuments of man's blessedness and of man's wretchedness lie side by side; we can not look for the one without discovering the other. The echo of joy is the moan of despair, and the cry of anguish is stifled in rejoicing. To make a monarch there must be slaves, and that one may triumph many must be weak.

Seeing that these things are, what shall we say? Shall we exclaim with the gay Grecian, *"Drink today, for tomorrow we are not?"*

Shall we calmly float down the current smiling if we can, silent while we must, lulling cares to sleep by the music of gentle enjoyment, and passing dream-like through a land of dreams?

No! dream-like as is our life, there is in it one reality — OUR DUTY! Let us cling to that, and distress may overwhelm but can not disturb us—may destroy but can not hurt us; the bitterness of earthly things, and the shortness of earthly life will cease to be evils, and begin to be blessings.

"All ends with the grave" says the unenlightened. But there is no "end" for those who know the truths of *Spiritualism*.

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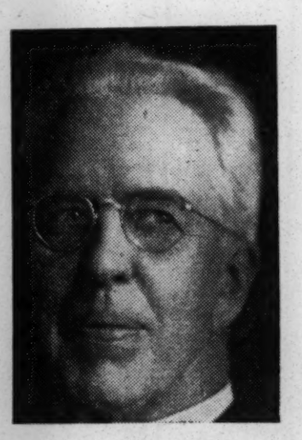

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(P-156)

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